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S E C R E T MUSCAT 000533

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SUBJECT: EMBASSY MUSCAT EAC - 03/30/2005

REF: MUSCAT 0492

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission William R. Stewart.
Reason: 1.4(c).

Summary

1. (SBU) The Deputy Chief of Mission chaired a meeting of the core Emergency Action Committee (EAC) March 30 to review the Embassy's security posture prior to the local weekend. Members noted no substantive changes in the local security environment since the last meeting. Accordingly, the EAC agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and FPCON remain appropriate. End Summary.

Security Environment

2. (SBU) On March 30, the Deputy Chief of Mission chaired a meeting of the core Emergency Action Committee to review the Embassy's security posture prior to the local weekend. The meeting opened with a discussion of the local security situation, which the EAC continued to characterize as stable. No/no new threat reporting was noted specific to Oman. Likewise, members cited no untoward incidents related to the Easter period or the visit of the Queen Elizabeth II cruise liner to the ports of Muscat and Salalah and March 27/28 and 29/30, respectively.

Emergency Preparedness

3. (SBU) The DCM led a discussion of lessons learned from the unannounced Embassy-wide fire drill held on March 30. RSO commented on the drill's overall effectiveness and solid participation. Embassy Muscat will maintain its increased drilling tempo in all areas of emergency preparedness.

Sustained Vigilance

4. (SBU) Prior to concluding the meeting, RSO reiterated that members of the EAC must continue reinforcing to both their staffs and family members the need for vigilance regarding all aspects of personal security. RSO further re-emphasized the importance of immediately reporting all suspicious activity or security-related incidents to Post One.

Conclusion

5. (S/NF) The EAC concluded that there have been no substantive changes in previously reported assessments of the local security environment since the last meeting held on March 22 (reftel). Accordingly, members agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and FPCON remain appropriate. Embassy Muscat remains acutely aware of the need to monitor both the regional and local security and threat environments, and is prepared to take the necessary countermeasures should changes to either occur. DCM, P/E, A/MGT, RSO, RMAS, CONS (Duty Officer), DAO, OMC (USDR), and ECA (USCENTAF) participated in the meeting.
BALTIMORE